



Story County  
**Master Gardener**  
Association

[SCMGA\\_Newsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com)

## April 2018 Newsletter

**April 16, 7 pm Program: Mike Cox, “Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor Project” (at McFarland Park, Story County Conservation)**  
**Hospitality: Michelle Boswell, Kathy Clark, Bronwyn Frame**

**NOTE:** Please wear your nametags to the meetings.

**NOTE 2:** Dues of \$10 are now due. You may pay at the meeting or send your payment to SCMGA, P.O. Box 164, Ames, IA 50010

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### The President’s Row

What is Spring Fever? A noun- a feeling of restlessness and excitement felt at the beginning of spring. I don’t recall being this excited about spring or having such an intense feeling for this Spring fever? Why is that? Is it because winter was mild in November and December yet it is now April and still cold out with highs of only 40 and lows in the teens? Is it because my pansies are suffering even though they are usually tolerant of the cooler spring temperatures? Is it seeing the sun and feeling the warmth of it, yet only through my window? Or is it nurturing the Zebra grasses snug in the house for the plant sale, and hoping they green up in time?

I think all of those things play a part but I also believe it is my passion and love to be in and around nature. Whether it is digging in the dirt to clean up the beds, planning for a new flower bed in the yard, anticipation of the plant sale and how I can participate, hearing about colleagues starting their vegetables in the basement or surrounding myself with like-minded gardeners and Master Gardeners.

Spring is the renewing of life and Mother Nature showing us the miracles of the earth. We awaken in the spring like the plants with our passions and desires. I am excited to put my passions into action NOW!

Susan Stocker  
2018 SCMGA President

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### SCMGA Minutes, March 19, 2018 @ Reiman Gardens

Katie Williams and Susan Stocker hosted the program that presented many good volunteer opportunities and helped to define what a Master Gardener is. New interns and graduates were

introduced. Those earning certain volunteer hour milestones were recognized and the Outstanding MG Award was given to former president Tom Jordan. (1 CE hour)

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 pm by President Susan Stocker. She reminded everyone to wear nametags to meetings. She also thanked the planning committee for a great program and the hospitality committee of Madonna Feeney, Sue Draper and Jackie Runyon for supplying us with the drinks and desserts for the graduation.

Susan welcomed all of the interns and graduates that were present.

Minutes were approved as published

The Treasury balance was \$9151.58 with a few more dues collected

Madonna Feeney brought some program books for those who had not picked theirs up yet.

Old Business:

\* Plant Sale – most of the plant sale business had already been discussed in the program so nothing new was mentioned during the meeting. (More tidbits will be in the next newsletter).

New Business:

\* Maureen Wilt has some gardening books to donate. It was decided that they will be donated to the Ames Library

\* Susan read a letter from Mark Schneider of the Iowa Arboretum requesting that we donate \$440 for 8 interns to attend the symposium. Tom Jordan mentioned that they really appreciated it last year. It was also suggested that we invite the interns to one of our meetings to present what they learn. Motion was approved

\* The next meeting will be April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Story County Conservation's McFarland Park.

\* The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted

Andrea Dorn

2018 SCMGA Secretary

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## **Tidbits from the Plant Sale Committee**

It looks like we are going to have some warm weather this week. I plan on digging and potting up most of my donations this week and getting them in the sun and crossing my fingers that they grow and look great for the sale in ONE MONTH! I'll also be contacting Gabi for my labels to print. Have you thought of what you are going to pot for the sale?? Its not too early to get started. Plants looks best (and bring a better price) when they have had some time to 'settle in their pot' and put out some new growth.

If you need a reminder about digging/potting/labeling, refer to the email dated March 12, 2018 from SCMGA, or email Bronwyn to have the email resent to you ([bronwyn.rf@gmail.com](mailto:bronwyn.rf@gmail.com))

1. Candy ([mbostrom@netins.net](mailto:mbostrom@netins.net)) is working with Reiman Gardens to organize snacks for all sale volunteers for Friday and Saturday. If you are willing to bring some food to share, please let her know.
2. We are looking for volunteers to pick up cardboard flats (~4 inches high and ~ 10 inches X 20 inches) from local grocery stores and deliver them to the maintenance building at Reiman. These are used by customers as "shopping baskets" at the sale. Any questions, contact Michelle ([shell688@aol.com](mailto:shell688@aol.com)). Any Master Gardener can volunteer for this task ☐ (volunteer hours!!)
3. If you are working set up on Thursday afternoon, May 10, and have a garden cart you could bring to help move plants around (from cars to sorting to tent), please contact Ann Wilbur ([abwilbur54@gmail.com](mailto:abwilbur54@gmail.com)) or Sue Draper ([suedraper8@gmail.com](mailto:suedraper8@gmail.com))
4. We are asking members to please provide their own potting soil, but if you need pots, just contact Bronwyn ([bronwyn.rf@gmail.com](mailto:bronwyn.rf@gmail.com)) or Michelle ([shell688@aol.com](mailto:shell688@aol.com)) and we will get you what you need. We have an abundance of pots of many sizes. If you let Michelle or Bronwyn know, we can bring you pots to our meeting in April or we have them available at our homes where you can pick them up.
5. For plant label help contact Gabi Edwards ([gfrerichs76@gmail.com](mailto:gfrerichs76@gmail.com)). She can generate labels for your plants and send you a file to print. If you need help with printing of the labels, contact Ann Wilbur ([abwilbur54@gmail.com](mailto:abwilbur54@gmail.com)).
6. Your plant donations for the sale should be dropped off to Reiman Gardens maintenance yard (north Gate) anywhere between 2-6 pm on Thursday, May 10. Thank you!!
7. If you know what plants you are bringing, please let Bronwyn ([bronwyn.rf@gmail.com](mailto:bronwyn.rf@gmail.com)) know. This helps our DMF sub-committee narrow down what wholesale plants to favor or minimize in their order.
8. Need help digging and potting? Contact Bronwyn ([bronwyn.rf@gmail.com](mailto:bronwyn.rf@gmail.com)), Jackie ([jackierunyan.ames@gmail.com](mailto:jackierunyan.ames@gmail.com)) or Jaclyn Hill ([jaclynhill@netins.net](mailto:jaclynhill@netins.net)). If you can help dig or pot, contact these same ladies.
9. Need help getting your plants to set up on Thursday? Contact Bronwyn ([bronwyn.rf@gmail.com](mailto:bronwyn.rf@gmail.com)) or Michelle ([shell688@aol.com](mailto:shell688@aol.com)).
10. If you have volunteered to work the sale for any time on Friday through Sunday - thank you! Watch for continuing email communications from Jane or contact her with questions any time ([jaztomesch@mchsi.com](mailto:jaztomesch@mchsi.com)). We are still in need of workers for the cleanup on Sunday afternoon. Please consider volunteering.
11. If you have volunteered to work setup day on Thursday, May 10th from 3-6 - thank you! Watch for upcoming communications from Ann and Sue or contact them any time ([abwilbur54@gmail.com](mailto:abwilbur54@gmail.com)) ([suedraper8@gmail.com](mailto:suedraper8@gmail.com) )
12. And remember that all SCMGA members and interns are welcome to shop the plant sale on Friday evening between 3-7. Friday's sale is only open to RG members and us. Beginning Saturday AM, the sale is open to the public.

Thank you everyone!

Your 2018 SCMGA Plant Sale Planning Committee

## Opportunities for Service and Education

### Service

- ☀ Volunteer to give a presentation at the SCMGA meetings
- ☀ Calling all Volunteers/MG Interns  
We will be doing the clean up and adding some vegetation to the ISU Extension

Building. Please join us for fun!

- April 25th 1-6 pm, Wednesday, Clean up
- April 28th 9-5 pm, Saturday, finalize clean up and planting
- Great way to get MG volunteer hours
- Can only volunteer for an hour or two? No Worries! We would still love your help.
- Contact Susan Stocker- [scstocker2@yahoo.com](mailto:scstocker2@yahoo.com) or Joan Peterson - [iowagardener@aol.com](mailto:iowagardener@aol.com) by Saturday April 21st if you can join us? (trying to get a headcount so we can better plan the event)
- Clean up/planting details provided when you contact us
- Between now and April 21st- if you have a little time and just want to rake some leaves, let us know. We can give you more direction and make sure leaf bags are available from Extension.
- Hope to see you.....(light) rain or shine!
- Thank you,
- Joan and Susan

- ☀ The Nevada Historical Society is looking for help in Nevada at Evergreen Lane and the Dyer Dowell House. They are open to working with you on what you are comfortable with. If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to Jenny Helland – 515-382-4510.

### Education

#### SCMGA 2018 Program Calendar

- ☀ April 16 – Mike Cox, Story CCB Director, Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor project, **at McFarland Park**, 56461 180<sup>th</sup> St. Ames, IA
- ☀ May 21 – TBA
- ☀ June 18 – TBA
- ☀ July 16 – TBA

**Please contact your 2018 SCMGA Board of Directors, if you have questions or concerns:**

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